CLAIMS

Claims 1-76 (CANCELED).

77(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED). A method for communicating an additional signal in a data processing system having a system bus, comprising:

establishing a communication path between a resource coupled to the system bus and at least one of a plurality of bus masters coupled to the system bus based on ownership of the resource; and

transferring the additional signal, separate from the system bus, between the resource and the at least one of the plurality of bus masters via the communication path,

wherein establishing the communication path comprises:

determining an owning bus master from the plurality of bus masters which owns the resource;

establishing the communication path between the resource and the owning bus master; and

when the resource is unowned by any of the plurality of bus masters, establishing the communication path between the resource and the at least one of the bus masters based on a map definition defined by a first master of the plurality of bus masters.